

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 GAC-01 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /146 W

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R 261520 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8653

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 7424

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XG

SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

REF: A) BRUSSELS 1516

B) BONN 41 13

1. US- EC RELAT. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 23 THAT AS FAR AS FRENCH
WERE CONCERNED NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN BY EC NINE
TO DISCUSS US- EC RELATIONS AT JUNE EC POLITICAL
MINISTERIAL. HE SAID NATURE OF SUCH DISCUSSION ITSELF POSED
SERIOUS QUESTIONS. ON OF KEY ASPECTS FRENCH WOULD INSIST
ON, HE CONTINUED, WOULD BE CLEAR SEPARATION OF ANY
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INTENSIFIED US- EC DISCUSSION INTO SEPARATE TRADE, MONE-
TARY, POLITICAL AND SECURITY CATEGORIES.

2. SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT. QUAI OFFICIAL SAID GOF EXPECTS
NO GREAT INNOVATIONS FLOWING FROM SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT.
QUESTION OF EUROPE' S INTERNAL POLITICAL STRUCTURE WILL BE
TREATED IN REPORT ON " EUROPEAN UNION" DUE IN 1975. ACCORDINGLY,
FRENCH DO NOT EXPECT DAVIGNON II TO BROACH THIS SUBJECT IN ANY
DEPTH.

3. FRENCH CONSIDER EXTERNAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS ALREADY
MOVING ALONG SATISFACTORY LINES. FRENCH AIM IS TO KEEP
EC CONSULTATIONS " SUPPLE" AND THUS AS FREE AS POSSIBLE FROM
RIGID ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OR TIGHT TIES TO EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY STRUCTURE, INCLUDING PARTICULARLY EC COMMISSION.
IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID FRENCH WILL CONTINUE TO INSIST
THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR ANY DISCUSSION WITHIN THE EC POLITICAL
CONTEXT SHOULD COME FROM GOVERNMENTS AND NOT THE EC AND ITS
COMMISSION.

4. COMMENT: QUAI VIEW OF LIKELY OUTCOME OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE
DISCUSSION OF US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS APPEARS SOME WHAT MORE IN
LINE WITH PARA 5 BONN REFTTEL THAN DAVIGNON' S INTERPRETATION.
IT ALSO TRACKS WITH REPORT IN MARCH 18-19 LEMONDE WHICH SUGGESTS
THAT ACTING FRENCH FON MIN BETTENCOURT HAD AGREED TO EC POLITICAL
DIRECTORS DISCUSSING SUBJECT IN ORDER TO AVOID FURTHER DISCUSSION
AT MARCH 16 EC FON MIN MEETING. AS LE MONDE NOTED,
" IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, WHICH CONTINUES
TO FEAR AN INSTUTIONALIZATION OF US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS,
WILL RAISE OBJECTIONS." NEVERTHELESS, WILLINGNESS TO DIS-
CUSS SUBJECT AT POLITICAL DIRECTORS' LEVEL DOES SUGGEST
POSSIBILITY OF A SLIGHTLY MORE LIBERAL FRENCH INTERPRETA-
TION OF THE OCTOBER 1972 EC SUMMIT' S CALL FOR THE
" MAINTENANCE OF A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE" BETWEEN US AND
EC.
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS07424
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730337/aaaaighe.tel
Line Count: 104
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BRUSSELS 1516, 73 BONN 4113
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <07-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971224
Subject: EC POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, XG, EEC
To: BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EC BRUSSELS
EUR
LONDON

SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005